

### **Illustrator Biography**

Marie Louise gay is an award-winning French-Canadian author and illustrator whose work is available throughout the world. She was born on June 17th, 1952 in Quebec City. After graduating high school Gay applied to L'Institut des Arts Graphiques de Montréal and began studying for a degree in Graphic Arts. Shortly afterwards she transferred to a program at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts School where she majored in animation. After graduation Gay worked as a professional illustrator and graphic designer for a number of years, winning the 1972 Claude Néon Award for the best billboard in Canada.

After several years as a professional illustrator, Gay began illustrating children's books including Lizzy's Lion by Dennis Lee in 1984. She wrote her first children's story in 1983. Since then she has written and illustrated many children's picture and storybooks including the popular Stella and Sam picture books. More recently, Gay has won numerous awards including the Governor General's award for English illustration in 2000. Gay currently lives in Montreal with her husband David Homel and continues to write and illustrate new stories.

More information about the life and work of Marie Louise Gay can be found at these websites:

**CANSCAIP (2008). CANSCAIP Member Marie-Louise Gay. Retrieved from**

**<http://www.canscaip.org/bios/gaym.html>**

Author profile on Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators, and Performers (CANSCAIP) website. Includes a short biography and a comprehensive bibliography. The website also includes a complete list of all awards she has been nominated for or received.

**McNally Robinson Booksellers, (UNKNOWN). Marie-Louise Gay - McNally Robinson**

**Booksellers. Retrieved from <http://www.mcnallyrobinson.com/browse/category/245/>**

Author profile on a booksellers website. Contains a short biography and a good list of her currently available titles.

**Gay, Marie-Louise, (2008). Groundwood Books: For the Finest in Children's Books: Authors and Illustrators: Marie Louise Gay. Retrieved from [http://www.groundwoodbooks.com/gw\\_authors.cfm?author\\_id=181](http://www.groundwoodbooks.com/gw_authors.cfm?author_id=181)**

A lengthy and humorous biography written by Gay. Contains a lot of interesting bibliographic details, including a description of how her career as an illustrator was cut short in elementary school by her inability to draw hair or symmetrical vases.

#### **Selected English Language Books (Author and illustrator)**

Gay, M. and Homel D. (2008) On the Road Again! Groundwood Books, Toronto, 140 pages.

Gay, M. (2005) Caramba Groundwood Books, Toronto, 40 pages

Gay, M. (2004) Stella, Princess of the Sky Groundwood Books, Toronto, 32 pages,

Gay, M. (2000) On My Island, Groundwood Books, Toronto, 44 pages.

Gay, M. (1986) Moonbeam on a Cat's Ear, Stoddart Publishing, 1986, Toronto, 32 pages

#### **Selected English Language Books (Illustrator)**

Howe, J. (2008). Houndsley and Catina and The Quiet Time, Candlewick Press, Cambridge. 46 pages

Gilmour, D. (2001). Yuck, A Love Story, Stoddart Kids, Toronto, 2001, 32 pages,

Wyse, L. (1998) How To Take Your Grandmother To The Museum , Workman Publishing, New York, 48 pages

Musgrave, S. (1998). Dreams Are More Real than Bathtubs, Orca Books, Victoria, 32 pages

Lee, D. (1984). Lizzy's Lion, General Publishing, Toronto, 24 pages